



# NEWS RELEASE

**Today's Date:** September 25, 2009  
**District:** 4 - Oakland  
**Contact:** Bob Haus  
**Phone:** (510) 286-5576  
(510) 715-7212 Cell

## **CARPOOL LANE HOURS EXTENDED ON I-680 AND ROUTE 4 Speed Limit to increase on Benicia-Martinez Bridge**

**Oakland** – Caltrans District 4, in conjunction with the Metropolitan Transportation Commission and the California Highway Patrol, will extend the carpool lane hours on two freeways in Contra Costa County. Carpool lane hours on Interstate 680 and State Route 4 will be extended one hour in the morning and evening for certain segments in order to match traffic patterns and parallel segments along the corridor. The change will be effective for the Monday morning commute on September 28. Crews will be working on these two freeways this weekend to revise signs to reflect these new hours.

There are two segments in each direction: The southbound limits are from the Marina Vista interchange to North Main Street and from Livorna Road to Alcosta Boulevard; the northbound limits are from Alcosta Boulevard to Livorna Road and from State Route 242 to the Marina Vista interchange.

The I-680 HOV hours of operation for both NB and SB directions for segment south of Route 24 between Livorna and Alcosta will increase by 1 hour in the morning, to 5 a.m., and in the evening, to 7 p.m. North of Route 24 interchange from Marina Vista to north Main Street in both directions, as well as Route 242 to Marina Vista in northbound direction will be increased by 1 hour in the morning, to 5 a.m. The evening peak will remain at 7 p.m.

Additionally, the speed limit on the bridge will be raised to 65 miles per hour on the southbound Benicia-Martinez Bridge (George Miller, Jr., Bridge), which was recently reconfigured to four lanes. This will keep consistent speed limits with the freeway north and south of the bridge.

On State Route 4, westbound carpool hours will begin one hour earlier at 5 a.m. from the current 6 a.m. This is to match the hours on the I-680 corridor. The westbound limits are from Loveridge Road to Port Chicago Highway. There is no plan to extend carpool hours in both directions of SR 4 at this point as there is no congestion in the off-peak hours in the eastbound direction. The eastbound limits are from Port Chicago Highway to Railroad Avenue and hours are currently 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.

XXX

